

EXHIBIT NO.

23

Surveillance for Acute Flaccid Myelitis - United States, 2018-2022

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Abstract

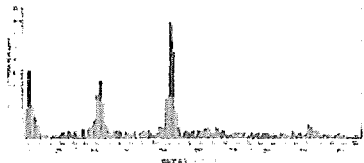
Acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) is a serious neurologic condition primarily affecting children; AFM can cause acute respiratory failure and permanent paralysis. AFM is a rare but known complication of various viral infections, particularly those of enteroviruses (EVs). Increases in AFM cases during 2014, 2016, and 2018 were associated with EV-D68 infection. This report examines trends in confirmed AFM cases during 2018-2022 and patients' clinical and laboratory characteristics. The number of AFM cases was low during 2019-2022 (28-47 cases per year); the number of cases remained low in 2022 despite evidence of increased EV-D68 circulation in the United States. Compared with cases during the most recent peak year (2018), fewer cases during 2019-2021 had upper limb involvement, prodromal respiratory or febrile illness, or cerebrospinal fluid pleocytosis, and more were associated with lower limb involvement. It is unclear why EV-D68 circulation in 2022 was not associated with an increase in AFM cases or when the next increase in AFM cases will occur. Nonetheless, clinicians should continue to suspect AFM in any child with acute flaccid limb weakness, especially those with a recent respiratory or febrile illness.

PubMed Disclaimer

Conflict of interest statement

All authors have completed and submitted the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors form for disclosure of potential conflicts of interest. No potential conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Figures



FIGURE

Confirmed cases of acute flaccid myelitis,...

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Bowers JR, Valentine M, Harrison V, Fofanov VY, Gillece J, Delisle J, Patton B, Schupp J, Sheridan K, Lemmer D, Ostdiek S, Bains HK, Heim J, Sylvester T, Prasai S, Kretschmer M, Fowle N, Komatsu K, Brady S, Robinson S, Fitzpatrick K, Ostovar GA, Alsop E, Hutchins E, Jensen K, Keim P, Engelthaler DM. *mBio*. 2019 Jan 22;10(1):e02262-18. doi: 10.1128/mBio.02262-18. PMID: 30670612 **Free PMC article.**

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